



The Power of Independent Thinking

Department of Communication Studies
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September 22, 2009

Dear Coach,

It is my pleasure to invite your team to the ***Wilkes Invitational Forensics Competition for PA High Schools***. This competition will be held on **Saturday, October 31, 2009**. Registration will start immediately and remain open until 3:00 pm on **Tuesday, October 27, 2009**. Nuisance fees will be assessed for all registration changes after **October 27, 2009**.

We will run the **Sept-Oct** topic for LD and the **Oct** topic for Public Forum (see: <http://www.nflonline.org/Topics.Topics>). Double entries are again permitted for all I.E. events. Students may do an Individual Event OR Debate, not both.

The tentative schedule will be as follows:

7:45-8:15	Registration (Stark Learning Center 101)
8:15-8:30	Open Meeting (Stark Learning Center 101)
9:00	Rd1 I.E. & Debate (draw begins at 8:30) Congress Session A
10:15	Rd 2 I.E. & Debate (draw begins at 10:00)
11:00	Congress Session B
11:45	Rd 3 I.E. & Debate (draw begins at 11:30)
1:00-2:00	Lunch (Stark Learning Center 101)
2:00	FINALS
ASAP	AWARDS CEREMONY (Stark Learning Center 101)

You will want to park your team vehicles in the parking lot behind the Henry Student Center (see <http://www.wilkes.edu/pages/201.asp> for a map of our campus). If you have any questions please feel free to contact me via email or phone. We hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

Christine E. Mellon
Director of Forensics

Description of Events

Declamation: Contestants will present an interpretation of a speech not of their own creation. Use of a manuscript will not be permitted. This event is for **Novice Competitors only**. **Time Limit** – ten (10) minutes.

Dramatic Duo: Contestants will present an interpretation of material of literary value from a dramatic work of serious or humorous nature. **Time Limit-** ten (10) minutes.

Dramatic interpretation: Contestants must use a single selection from a dramatic work, which may be serious, humorous, or both. The selections must be memorized. **Time Limit** – ten (10) minutes.

Extemporaneous Speaking: Contestants will choose from three topic questions in each round. A staggered Draw will begin one half hour before each round of competition. Notes not exceeding fifty (50) words for reference are optional. **Time Limit** – seven (7) minutes.

If you are competing in extemp rounds, you are not eligible to debate.

Oral Interpretation of Prose and Poetry: Contestants will deliver an interpretive reading of material of literary value from a prose work and from poetry, in alternating rounds. The students must hold their manuscript and appear to be reading. A coin toss during the opening meeting will determine the order of events. **Time Limit** – ten (10) minutes.

Original Oratory: Contestants will deliver a speech of his/her own creation. The use of notes or manuscript is permitted. Contestants must have a full manuscript of the text available. **Time limit** – ten (10) minutes.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate: One person teams shall be prepared to debate both sides of a national Lincoln-Douglas Topic. Contact the NFL website for the Sept-Oct debate LD topic.

Public Forum: Public Forum Debate is audience friendly debate. You and a partner will debate controversial issues that are "stripped" from the newspaper headlines. A new topic will be announced the first day of each preceding month at www.nflonline.org. A Public Forum Debate round begins with a flip of a coin between the competing teams to determine your side and speaker position. Public Forum will test your skills in argumentation, cross-examination, and refutation. Contact the NFL website for the Oct PF topic.

Student Congress: Any bills that you wish to be considered must be submitted by Wednesday, October 14, 2009. Bills may be emailed to: christine.mellon@wilkes.edu with the subject "Student Congress."

Registration Payment Form

School Name: _____

Registration Fees:	School Entry Fee	\$15.00
	Event Registration Fee (per event)	\$5.00
	*Fees include pizza for student lunch	
Nuisance Fees (After 10/27/2009):	Entry Change Fee (per entry)	\$15.00
	Dropped Judge Fee (per judge)	\$60.00

Judging Requirements:

- A limited number of hired judges will be available. Schools that do not provide the stipulated number of judges will be assessed a \$20.00 hired judge fee per uncovered entry.
- If possible, please bring at least one unaffiliated judge (no relation to students or school).
- Schools must provide **one judge for every two debate entrants**, or fraction thereof.
- Schools must provide **one judge per four individual events entries**, or fraction thereof.

ENTRY FEES:

Event Entries	_____x	\$5.00 =	_____
Uncovered Entries	_____x	\$20.00=	+ _____
		Subtotal 1	_____

NUISANCE FEES:

Entry Changes	_____x	\$15.00=	_____
Dropped Judges	_____x	\$60.00=	+ _____
		Subtotal 2	_____

TOTAL FEES:

Entry Fee	\$15.00
Subtotal 1	+ _____
Subtotal 2	+ _____

Total Fees: _____

Make checks payable to: Wilkes University

Amount Received: \$ _____

SIGNATURE / DATE